

S. 295, Sections 13 and 14
VMS Proposed Language

Sec. 13. VPMS Query; Medicaid Participation; Rulemaking

The Secretary of Human Services shall adopt rules requiring all Medicaid participating providers, whether licensed in or outside Vermont, who prescribe buprenorphine or a drug containing buprenorphine to a Vermont Medicaid beneficiary to query the Vermont Prescription Monitoring System (VPMS), the first time they prescribe buprenorphine or a drug containing buprenorphine for a patient and at regular intervals thereafter. The rules may also include dosage thresholds, which may be exceeded only with prior approval from the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) or his or her designee.

Sec. 14. Medication Assisted Therapy; Rulemaking

The Commissioner of Health shall adopt rules relating to medication assisted therapy for opioid dependence for physicians treating fewer than 30 patients, which shall include a requirement that such physicians ensure that their patients are screened or assessed to determine their need for counseling and that patients who are determined to need counseling receive or are referred for appropriate substance abuse counseling from a licensed clinical professional. ~~receive appropriate substance abuse counseling from a licensed clinical professional.~~